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FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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FIRST FORECAST INDICATES LARGER WORLD BARLEY AND OATS CROP

World production of barley and oats in 1951 tentatively is forecast at about 131 million short tons, according to information available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. At that figure, the combined crop would be the largest of the postwar years and one of the largest of record. Both barley and oats outturns are expected to be larger than in 1950. The outlook is for an above average (1935-39) barley harvest but some decline from that prewar average for oats.

The decline in oats is caused principally by sharp reductions from the prewar acreage in Europe and the Soviet Union. Minor increases in most other areas do little to offset that substantial acreage reduction. World oats acreage is also slightly less than in 1950 but higher yields bring the production slightly above that of a year ago.

The world oats crop is now forecast at 4.3 billion bushels, compared with the 1950 harvest of 4.2 billion and the 1935-39 average of 4.4 billion. The bulk of the moderate increase over last year's harvest is indicated for Europe and the Soviet Union. The forecast of 2.6 billion bushels for barley compares with the slightly above-average harvest of 2.4 billion bushels in 1950. Increases over the 1950 harvest are reported for all Northern Hemisphere countries.

In North America acreage of barley shows little change from the 1950 figure, a decrease of 1.3 million acres in the United States being offset by a like increase in Canada's acreage. Prospects for higher yields in Canada, with the increased acreage, bring production prospects there to 257 million bushels, compared with 171 million last year. This more than offsets the reduction of 46 million bushels in the United States crop. Acreage of oats for the continent is down about 3.7 million acres. A decrease of about 4 million acres in the United States outweighs a small increase for Canada. Yields per acre are higher than in 1950 for both countries, maintaining total output near the 1950 level despite the smaller acreage.

European production of barley and oats combined was a little above that of 1950. Larger crops of both grains are estimated, with increased yields more than offsetting the reduced acreage in oats. The oats crop is tentatively estimated at 1,390 million bushels, compared with 1,360 million a year ago. The largest single increase is reported for France, where the current estimate of 248 million bushels is about 10 percent larger than the 1950 crop, despite reduced acreage. Increases for Germany, Austria, Spain and Ireland more than offset reductions in most other areas.

The barley crop is now estimated at 740 million bushels, an increase of 45 million bushels over the 1950 harvest. Increases are more widespread than for oats, since barley acreage is up in most countries and yields generally higher than in 1950.

BARLEY: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1949-1951 1/

Continent and country	Acreage 2/					Yield per acre 3/					Production				
	Average					Average					Average				
	1935-39	1940-44	1949	1950	1951 4/	1935-39	1940-44	1949	1950	1951 4/	1935-39	1940-44	1949	1950	1951 4/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
NORTH AMERICA															
Canada	4,291	6,461	6,017	6,625	8,036	20.7	27.4	20.0	25.9	32.0	88,882	176,850	120,408	171,393	257,051
Mexico	374	391	531	568	-	10.6	13.2	13.8	13.1	-	3,960	5,171	7,350	7,440	-
United States	10,817	14,392	9,857	11,191	9,793	22.1	23.7	24.0	26.9	26.1	238,622	340,464	236,737	301,009	255,131
Estimated total 5/	15,480	21,250	16,410	18,390	18,360	-	-	-	-	-	332,000	522,000	364,000	480,000	520,000
EUROPE															
Austria	401	383	311	330	370	32.6	30.1	31.0	34.8	37.3	13,087	11,520	9,650	11,500	13,800
Belgium	74	137	194	207	219	48.2	47.6	58.5	58.0	56.7	3,570	6,525	11,340	12,000	12,420
Bulgaria	767	544	-	-	-	22.7	18.8	-	-	-	17,400	10,200	-	-	-
Czechoslovakia	6/ 1,600	1,560	1,425	-	-	6/ 32.4	30.8	35.1	-	-	6/ 51,800	48,000	50,000	-	-
Denmark	946	984	1,121	1,221	1,280	55.9	56.0	64.4	60.8	61.7	52,881	55,084	72,155	74,180	79,000
Finland	280	294	335	330	-	28.2	21.7	27.2	27.9	-	7,900	6,373	9,100	9,200	-
France	1,897	1,790	2,214	2,377	2,513	27.9	23.5	29.7	30.4	30.5	53,004	42,000	65,725	72,200	76,560
Western Germany	6/ 2,005	-	1,220	1,520	1,590	6/ 39.4	-	45.7	44.5	49.1	6/ 79,000	-	55,700	67,600	78,000
Other Germany	6/ 1,070	-	-	-	-	6/ 46.3	-	-	-	-	6/ 49,500	-	-	-	-
Greece	525	490	504	510	516	17.8	13.6	17.9	18.0	19.4	9,365	6,640	9,020	9,190	10,000
Hungary	1,163	1,235	-	-	-	25.9	24.3	-	-	-	30,178	30,000	-	-	-
Ireland	118	172	157	125	150	45.9	43.1	51.0	48.0	53.3	5,413	7,417	8,000	6,000	8,000
Italy	475	575	618	613	613	20.9	17.7	16.8	21.8	20.1	9,950	10,200	10,400	13,360	12,300
Netherlands	107	109	121	170	162	55.5	51.8	71.9	62.9	-	5,934	5,642	8,700	10,700	-
Norway	143	126	99	103	114	38.2	34.1	39.9	44.1	45.6	5,467	4,299	3,955	4,540	5,200
Poland	2,570	-	-	-	-	29.6	-	-	-	-	76,000	-	-	-	-
Portugal	320	-	345	359	384	12.8	-	12.5	15.8	15.6	4,100	-	4,320	5,660	6,000
Rumania	2,030	1,620	-	-	-	13.8	15.3	-	-	-	28,000	24,800	-	-	-
Spain	7/ 4,549	4,075	3,700	3,800	3,840	7/ 21.3	18.4	22.3	20.5	21.2	7/ 97,059	75,000	82,500	78,000	81,500
Sweden	252	260	213	232	272	39.5	34.4	38.4	41.6	39.7	9,951	8,956	8,175	9,650	10,790
Switzerland	13	53	47	48	48	33.1	40.3	48.9	44.8	45.0	430	2,136	2,300	2,150	2,160
United Kingdom	934	1,620	2,060	1,780	1,885	39.2	40.9	48.2	44.9	42.8	36,596	66,183	99,353	79,850	80,700
Yugoslavia	1,045	1,000	-	-	-	18.0	16.6	-	-	-	18,800	16,600	-	-	-
Estimated total 5/	23,310	22,480	22,590	23,150	23,750	-	-	-	-	-	666,000	610,000	690,000	695,000	740,000
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	26,600	-	21,500	21,500	-	16.0	-	14.4	15.1	-	425,000	-	310,000	325,000	-

ASIA															
Iran	6/ 1,545	1,567	1,762	1,977	1,873	6/ 23.1	21.5	17.0	18.6	18.2	6/ 35,728	33,735	30,000	36,740	34,000
Iraq	6/ 1,932	2,620	1,853	2,470	-	6/ 12.2	10.3	18.9	15.0	-	23,635	27,100	35,000	37,000	-
Lebanon	8/	88	50	44	-	8/	14.0	20.8	20.9	-	8/	1,234	1,040	920	-
Syria	8/ 793	651	-	-	-	8/ 19.4	17.8	-	-	-	8/ 15,386	11,589	10,000	11,000	-
Turkey	4,592	4,822	3,700	4,700	5,050	20.9	17.6	14.9	20.0	21.8	96,129	85,017	55,000	94,020	110,000
China	6/ 16,000	14,200	15,200	-	-	6/ 21.7	21.7	20.1	-	-	6/347,000	308,200	305,000	-	-
Manchuria	6/ 353	237	-	-	-	6/ 18.3	22.4	-	-	-	6/ 6,462	5,300	-	-	-
Indian Union 9/	6/ 5,793	5,918	7,688	7,654	7,443	6/ 15.6	15.3	13.8	13.1	14.2	6/ 90,253	90,552	105,750	100,470	105,650
Pakistan 9/	6/ 486	546	611	563	571	6/ 14.5	13.9	13.7	12.8	13.1	6/ 7,047	7,588	8,350	7,200	7,500
Japan	1,888	2,097	2,466	2,407	2,420	38.7	35.0	33.3	32.4	41.3	73,113	73,311	82,150	78,000	100,000
Korea	2,674	2,620	-	-	-	19.5	20.6	-	-	-	52,096	54,000	-	-	-
Estimated total 5/	37,860	37,080	37,890	39,800	40,000	-	-	-	-	-	770,000	720,000	690,000	735,000	795,000
AFRICA															
Algeria	3,051	2,714	2,734	2,740	2,800	10.9	8.8	16.5	13.9	9.3	33,132	23,836	45,000	38,000	26,000
Egypt	276	331	175	130	125	38.8	35.2	37.1	34.6	36.2	10,697	11,662	6,500	4,500	4,525
French Morocco	4,448	5,130	4,525	4,850	4,730	12.0	9.8	13.9	10.3	14.5	53,279	50,189	62,800	50,000	68,500
Tunisia	1,182	1,180	1,530	934	865	7.7	4.8	11.7	9.9	-	9,048	5,695	17,870	9,200	-
Union of South Africa	6/ 86	129	-	-	-	6/ 18.1	15.1	-	-	-	1,555	1,946	-	-	-
Estimated total 5/	10,310	10,760	10,480	10,280	10,240	-	-	-	-	-	121,000	107,000	151,000	122,000	123,000
SOUTH AMERICA															
Argentina	1,286	1,090	970	1,450	-	17.6	22.8	18.7	22.4	-	22,586	24,805	18,100	32,540	-
Chile	184	122	112	130	125	27.4	28.3	26.1	31.9	-	5,041	3,453	2,928	4,150	-
Uruguay	44	54	74	68	-	14.8	12.8	16.8	16.6	-	649	693	1,240	1,130	-
Estimated total 5/	2,140	1,910	2,050	2,480	2,550	-	-	-	-	-	38,000	39,000	37,000	49,000	44,000
OCEANIA															
Australia	648	610	1,040	1,100	1,090	18.0	15.7	19.6	23.9	-	11,651	9,590	20,360	26,250	-
New Zealand	24	32	57	58	-	39.7	36.7	44.4	36.2	-	952	1,175	2,530	2,100	-
Total	672	642	1,097	1,158	1,150	-	-	-	-	-	12,603	10,765	22,890	28,350	26,200
Estimated world total 5/	116,370	115,000	112,020	116,760	117,550	-	-	-	-	-	2,365,000	2,335,000	2,265,000	2,435,000	2,600,000

1/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow: thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1951 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvests which will begin late in 1951 and end early in 1952. 2/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible. 3/ Yield per acre calculated from acreage and production data shown, except for incomplete periods. 4/ Preliminary estimates for Northern Hemisphere countries; for Southern Hemisphere, preliminary forecasts based largely on acreage and weather conditions to date. 5/ Estimated totals, which in the case of production, are rounded to millions, include allowances for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown. 6/ Average of less than 5 years. 7/ Figure for 1935 only. 8/ Estimates for Syria and Lebanon not shown separately during this period. 9/ Estimates for reporting areas only. Allowances for non-reporting areas, not shown, are included in estimated totals for Asia.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, or other information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries.

OATS: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1949-1951 1/

Continent and country	Acreage 2/					Yield per acre 3/					Production				
	Average					Average					Average				
	1935-39	1940-44	1949	1950	1951 4/	1935-39	1940-44	1949	1950	1951 4/	1935-39	1940-44	1949	1950	1951 4/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
NORTH AMERICA															
Canada 5/	13,246	13,614	11,389	11,575	12,065	25.5	34.1	27.9	36.3	41.6	338,071	463,944	317,916	419,930	502,114
Mexico	29	87	195	198	-	16.0	19.5	20.8	20.6	-	465	1,699	4,050	4,075	-
United States	35,761	38,075	40,440	42,027	37,851	29.2	31.8	32.9	34.9	36.4	1,045,329	1,212,146	1,329,473	1,465,134	1,377,965
Estimated total 6/	49,040	51,780	52,030	53,800	50,110	-	-	-	-	-	1,384,000	1,678,000	1,651,000	1,889,000	1,884,000
EUROPE															
Austria	686	567	545	544	544	41.9	37.0	40.4	30.3	42.3	28,746	21,000	22,000	16,500	23,000
Belgium	548	390	480	438	400	74.7	70.2	84.3	79.2	72.2	40,946	27,367	40,440	34,680	28,890
Bulgaria	362	401	-	-	-	24.9	21.4	-	-	-	9,000	8,586	-	-	-
Czechoslovakia	7/ 1,828	1,680	1,421	-	-	7/ 46.6	45.1	48.6	-	-	7/ 85,131	75,800	69,000	-	-
Denmark	932	843	761	684	662	75.3	76.1	88.9	84.0	87.9	70,205	64,112	67,654	57,460	58,215
Finland	1,030	926	1,075	1,125	-	43.7	34.6	46.5	44.0	-	45,000	32,027	50,000	49,500	-
France	8,089	6,300	6,019	5,814	5,518	40.7	35.7	36.9	39.2	45.0	329,304	225,000	222,180	227,690	248,160
Western Germany	7/ 3,370	-	2,800	2,860	2,800	7/ 57.7	-	63.9	61.2	67.9	7/194,500	-	179,000	175,000	190,000
Other Germany	7/ 1,810	-	-	-	-	7/ 64.4	-	-	-	-	7/116,500	-	-	-	-
Greece	350	349	333	363	377	24.3	20.1	22.5	22.6	23.9	8,510	7,025	7,500	8,200	9,000
Hungary	558	660	-	-	-	35.9	36.4	-	-	-	20,042	24,000	-	-	-
Ireland	571	844	725	640	650	68.8	62.2	55.2	59.4	61.5	39,265	52,535	40,000	38,000	40,000
Italy	1,062	1,090	1,158	1,169	1,134	35.9	31.6	24.7	32.6	32.0	38,150	34,400	28,570	33,120	36,240
Luxembourg	65	54	51	57	-	44.8	47.6	49.0	42.8	-	2,910	2,572	2,500	2,440	-
Netherlands	360	291	333	347	377	71.6	62.8	87.7	75.5	66.8	25,769	18,287	29,200	26,200	25,200
Norway	212	226	187	192	193	61.0	49.1	60.2	64.5	64.1	12,940	11,094	11,250	12,390	12,370
Poland	4,900	-	-	-	-	41.6	-	-	-	-	204,000	-	-	-	-
Portugal	865	-	300	810	790	12.0	-	9.0	11.0	12.2	10,350	-	7,200	8,900	9,650
Rumania	1,620	1,340	-	-	-	23.1	24.2	-	-	-	37,500	32,400	-	-	-
Spain	8/ 1,848	1,800	1,600	1,600	1,610	8/ 21.3	21.1	21.6	23.8	24.8	8/ 39,369	38,000	34,500	38,000	40,000
Sweden	1,641	1,476	1,240	1,243	1,240	53.1	39.4	51.2	49.1	46.0	87,198	58,136	63,500	61,000	57,000
Switzerland	28	83	57	60	60	56.9	66.3	78.9	64.2	72.3	1,593	5,505	4,500	3,850	4,340
United Kingdom	2,430	3,764	3,252	3,105	2,870	57.0	58.4	64.5	60.7	59.2	138,628	219,926	209,650	188,500	170,000
Yugoslavia	893	850	-	-	-	24.5	22.5	-	-	-	21,900	19,100	-	-	-
Estimated total 6/	36,090	34,310	31,990	31,550	30,980	-	-	-	-	-	1,608,000	1,465,000	1,410,000	1,360,000	1,390,000
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	49,500	-	37,000	37,000	-	23.5	-	20.9	20.3	-	1,165,000	-	775,000	750,000	-

ASIA															
Syria	9/ 24	21	-	-	-	9/ 27.6	27.4	-	-	-	9/ 662	575	-	-	-
Turkey	636	871	560	750	790	26.6	21.6	21.4	29.0	29.1	16,893	18,779	12,000	21,740	23,000
China	7/ 2,600	-	2,322	-	-	7/ 23.1	-	21.5	-	-	7/ 60,000	-	50,000	-	-
Japan	310	324	205	216	195	37.0	30.4	31.9	42.7	42.6	11,481	9,838	6,540	9,230	8,300
Korea	7/ 242	-	-	-	-	7/ 11.2	-	-	-	-	7/ 2,718	-	-	-	-
Estimated total 6/	4,010	4,660	3,870	4,130	4,200	-	-	-	-	-	96,000	104,000	81,000	96,000	101,000
AFRICA															
Algeria	465	544	452	460	415	23.4	19.2	25.2	22.7	23.7	10,859	10,470	11,400	10,450	9,820
French Morocco	104	91	114	119	143	26.5	25.7	29.1	25.6	29.4	2,751	2,339	3,321	3,050	4,200
Tunisia	84	79	74	74	67	19.9	17.6	23.5	23.2	23.9	1,674	1,390	1,740	1,720	1,600
Union of South Africa	7/ 544	-	-	-	-	7/ 12.8	-	-	-	-	6,966	7,238	8,000	-	-
Estimated total 6/	1,210	1,440	1,370	1,330	1,350	-	-	-	-	-	23,000	22,000	25,000	24,000	25,000
SOUTH AMERICA															
Argentina	1,974	1,855	1,275	1,570	-	25.4	26.7	29.2	30.6	-	50,182	49,507	37,200	48,000	-
Chile	279	218	225	250	264	27.5	27.1	20.0	24.1	-	7,670	5,900	4,500	6,030	-
Uruguay	213	224	244	158	-	14.6	12.5	16.8	15.8	-	3,100	2,790	4,100	2,500	-
Estimated total 6/	2,490	2,320	1,780	2,020	2,200	-	-	-	-	-	62,000	59,000	46,000	57,000	53,000
OCEANIA															
Australia	1,593	1,626	1,750	1,800	-	14.7	12.4	19.5	17.8	-	23,351	20,179	34,200	32,000	-
New Zealand	63	63	53	50	-	56.2	61.2	61.8	57.0	-	3,539	3,853	3,275	2,850	-
Total	1,656	1,689	1,803	1,850	1,960	-	-	-	-	-	26,890	24,032	37,475	34,850	36,000
Estimated world total 6/	144,000	140,600	129,840	131,680	127,800	-	-	-	-	-	4,365,000	4,305,000	4,025,000	4,210,000	4,305,000

1/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow; thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1951 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvests which will begin late in 1951 and end early in 1952. 2/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible. 3/ Yield per acre calculated from acreage and production data shown, except for incomplete periods. 4/ Preliminary estimates for Northern Hemisphere countries; for Southern Hemisphere, preliminary forecasts based largely on acreage and weather conditions to date. 5/ Production and yield reported in bushels of 34 pounds. 6/ Estimated totals, which in the case of production are rounded to millions, include allowances for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown. 7/ Average of less than 5 years. 8/ Figure for 1935 only. 9/ Includes estimate for Lebanon, and is, therefore, not strictly comparable with estimates shown for later years.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research or other information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries.

Production of barley and oats in the Soviet Union is expected to show a moderate increase over the 1950 harvest. Indications are, however, that the crop will continue well below the prewar level since acreage is estimated significantly below prewar.

Asia's harvest of these grains is expected to be slightly larger than in 1950 mainly because of higher yields in most of the principal producing countries. The bulk of the increase is estimated for Japan, China, India, and Turkey. In most Near East countries other than Turkey, drought reduced yields below those of a year ago.

Little overall change is forecast from last year's crop in Africa. Considerable variation is noted within the area, however. Barley production in French North Africa normally accounts for about 80 percent of Africa's total. Conditions varied widely there with a sharp increase in yields in French Morocco offsetting reduced yields in Algeria and Tunisia. Drought brought yields in the latter 2 countries somewhat below average. Production of oats, relatively unimportant in Africa, is estimated to be about the same as a year ago.

Crops in South America are in the early stages of development, and tentative forecasts are based on available information on acreage changes and growing conditions to date. The barley acreage seeded in Argentina, the Continent's ranking producer, is believed to be about the same as last year. Yield prospects, however, are slightly less favorable than at this time last year. The acreage seeded to oats in Argentina is also expected to show little change from 1950. The acreage harvested for grain, however, varies widely depending on the proportion utilized for pasture.

In Australia also the outlook is largely dependent on conditions for the remainder of the growing season. Acreage of both barley and oats is expected to show some increase over that of a year ago. The outlook for the harvest was generally good at latest report.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

1951 FOREIGN RAISIN PRODUCTION BELOW LAST YEAR [1]

The 1951 preliminary estimate of raisin production outside of the United States is 214,600 short tons compared with 241,200 short tons (revised) in 1950 and 208,200 tons in 1949. The present estimate is 3 percent above the 10-year (1940-49) average of 208,600 tons and 6 percent above the 5-year (1945-49) average of 203,000 tons. No official estimate for the California pack is available at this time; however, the Trade forecasts a pack considerably above the very small one of 1950 and one about equal to the average.

The foreign production and indicated California pack combined will give the world about an average supply of raisins. On the basis of information available at this time the United States will have about 54 percent of the world's total compared with only 38 percent in 1950 and 56 percent in 1949. The only foreign countries reporting larger packs than a year ago are Iran, Spain and the Union of South Africa. All others are down from a year ago. This year, for the first time in history, Iran is the second largest foreign producer, having almost the same tonnage as Turkey.

Growing conditions abroad generally have not been satisfactory except in Iran and Spain. Argentina and the Union of South Africa reported some frost damage, and Chile a shortage of irrigation water. Australia and Greece reported dry, hot weather with some rain at drying time. Turkey suffered the worst weather damage of all when late, hot winds reduced the forecast of the pack from 77,000 to 55,000 short tons.

The 1950-51 season abroad ended with an estimated carry-over of only 2,900 tons, of which Iran had 2,200 tons, Greece 600 tons and Turkey the balance. Last year a carry-over of 5,000 tons remained on September 1. This season the production in the Southern Hemisphere countries, Argentina, Australia, Chile and the Union of South Africa has for most practical purposes been sold, only Argentina and Chile have a relatively small tonnage left unsold. On the basis of present information, about 600 tons remain unsold in Argentina and Chile 700 tons.

The 1950-51 export season statistics are not available for all countries; however, on the basis of such as are available and Trade estimates for the balance, it appears about 163,000 short tons of the 1950 pack were moved into international trade which represents about 68 percent of the 1950 pack. The United Kingdom appears to have been the largest purchaser of foreign raisins, followed by Germany and other European countries and Canada.

The 1951-52 export season in the Southern Hemisphere countries is about over, with Australia and the Union of South Africa reported sold out. Argentina and Chile expect no difficulty in moving their small balances. In the Mediterranean Basin countries, the new season appears to be getting off to a much slower start than a year ago when the Korean

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[1] A more extensive statement will soon be published as a _Foreign Agriculture Circular_, obtainable from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

TABLE 1.- RAISINS: Estimated world commercial production, 1951 with comparisons

(Rounded to nearest 100 short tons)

Year	Argentina	Australia		Chile	Greece	Iran
		Lexias	Sultanas			
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average:						
1940-49	5,700	9,000	59,300	1,400	22,300	33,200
1945-49	5,300	7,000	50,400	1,000	23,200	32,500
Annual:						
1945	3,600	9,800	46,700	900	9,400	33,000
1946	4,400	7,900	57,500	1,300	20,900	35,800
1947	5,000	5,900	44,400	1,000	26,400	22,000
1948	7,200	5,600	64,700	700	25,300	49,500
1949	6,300	5,800	38,600	900	34,100	22,000
1950 2/	5,500	1/ 2,700	1/46,300	1/ 1,300	1/39,400	49,500
1951 2/	5,000	6,500	38,300	900	33,000	54,500

Year	Spain	Turkey (Smyrna)	Union of South Africa	Foreign total	United States	Total all
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average:						
1940-49	8,700	58,000	11,000	208,600	257,800	466,400
1945-49	8,400	64,900	10,300	203,000	246,700	449,600
Annual:						
1945	8,600	71,500	11,500	195,000	241,000	436,000
1946	6,100	60,500	12,300	206,700	193,000	399,700
1947	11,300	33,000	9,500	158,500	306,000	464,500
1948	6,900	77,000	9,400	246,300	231,500	477,800
1949	9,400	82,500	8,600	208,200	262,000	470,200
1950 2/	10,700	1/77,000	8,800	1/241,200	150,000	1/391,200
1951 2/	12,500	55,000	8,900	214,600	3/	3/

1/ Revised. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Not yet available.

CURRANTS: Estimated world commercial production, 1951 with comparisons

(Rounded to nearest 100 short tons)

Year	Australia	Greece	South Africa	Total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average:				
1940-49	21,000	75,600	1,000	97,600
1945-49	17,400	73,000	1,100	91,500
Annual:				
1945	19,700	41,800	1,100	62,600
1946	15,700	62,200	1,200	79,100
1947	12,800	84,500	1,000	98,300
1948	20,100	77,000	1,100	98,200
1949	18,800	99,500	1,000	119,300
1950 2/	1/ 14,300	88,700	1,000	1/104,000
1951 2/	17,700	93,500	800	112,000

1/ Revised. 2/ Preliminary

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of Foreign Governments, reports of U. S. Foreign service officers, results of office research or other information.

UNITED STATES: Exports of raisins to specified countries, 1949-50 with comparisons

(Crop year basis, September-August)

Country of destination	Average 1945/46-1949/50	1946-47	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50	1950-51 1/
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Austria..........	1,206	2/	2,740	3,215	77	0
Belgium..........	3,444	657	6,497	3,324	5,535	1,550
Denmark..........	73	1	56	154	152	31
Finland..........	22	8	23	15	65	0
France...........	159	6	530	36	220	23
Germany..........	23,635	0	79,465	5,158	33,522	3
Ireland..........	1,536	2,673	0	2,798	0	0
Netherlands......	1,864	257	198	181	7,768	1,087
Norway...........	5	2/	9	1	17	4
Sweden...........	1,334	2,390	4	0	3,748	6
United Kingdom...	22,573	25,475	2,035	22,252	37,353	2/
Other Europe.....	1,687	565	1,481	766	5,354	1,373
Total Europe	57,538	32,032	92,958	37,900	93,811	4,077
Canada...........	9,475	220	21,185	7,560	7,094	5,793
All other countries	7,759	8,255	9,404	6,267	7,784	5,552
Total..........	74,772	40,507	123,547	51,727	108,689	15,422

1/ 11 months September-July. 2/ Less than one-half ton.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

conflict caused a rush of buying and the United States supplies were small. Up to this writing very few forward sales are reported and foreign buyers are reported holding back to pending development in connection with the United States export program. According to available information, United States prices under the program are very competitive and causing considerable concern to foreign exporters. Greek prices are high in comparison to United States and Turkish-Iranian prices are competitive on f.o.b. basis, but freight partially offsets this advantage.

The Turkish market reports very little activity early in the season but now expects heavy orders from the United Kingdom and Germany. Spain also reports a slow opening but in view of a better exchange rate and the smaller Turkish pack hopes to move a good volume later in the season.--- By Dr. Walter R. Schreiber, based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

WORLD 1951 DRIED PRUNE PACK ABOUT AVERAGE [1]

The 1951 preliminary estimate of dried prune production in the 9 leading foreign producing countries and the United States is 229,700 short tons compared with 187,900 tons (revised) in 1950 and 213,500 tons (revised) in 1949. The estimate is 4 percent above the 10-year (1940-49) average of 220,300 tons but 3 percent below the 5-year (1945-49) average of 237,300 tons.

The indicated United States production is considerably above the relatively poor crop of 1950; it represents this year about 79 percent of the world total compared with 80 percent in 1950 and 86 percent in the 10-year (1940-49) period. Smaller packs than last season are reported in Argentina and Chile. All other countries report a larger pack than in 1950. In France the pack is expected to be nearly double that of 1950 and in the Balkan countries there is a substantial increase. Quality in most countries except France is reported good. In France the prunes are running to small sizes and there is some doubt as to sugar content and keeping qualities.

Growing conditions generally were good although late spring frosts did some damage in Argentina, and there was a little rain damage in Australia and France. The dried prune industry in some of the Balkan countries is making a good come-back from the war time damage and neglect.

The 1950-51 export season abroad came to a close with negligible carry-over from the 1950 pack. Official export statistics are not available for most of the foreign producing countries; however, the tonnage moved into international trade was insignificant. In most of these foreign countries the prune crop is used largely to supply the domestic market and only relatively minor lots are exported. France consumes most of its

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[1] A more extensive statement will soon be published as a Foreign Agriculture Circular, obtainable from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

PRUNES, DRIED: Estimated commercial production in specified countries, 1951 - with comparisons

(Rounded to nearest 100 short tons)

Year	Argentina	Australia	Chile	France	South Africa
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average:					
1940-49	4,100	2,800	2,100	4,800	1,400
1945-49	5,300	2,600	2,800	7,500	1,700
Annual:					
1945	4,300	1,900	1,800	1,100	1,300
1946	4,800	3,000	2,600	4,100	1,600
1947	6,300	2,200	2,900	11,000	1,900
1948	5,200	3,600	3,600	8,100	1,900
1949	6,000	2,200	3,100	13,200	1,800
1950 1/	6,600	2,500	2/ 3,400	6,800	500
1951 1/	5,500	3,000	2,500	11,000	1,700

Year	Balkan Countries 3/	Foreign total	United States	World total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average:				
1940-49	15,700	30,900	189,400	220,300
1945-49	18,400	38,300	196,900	235,200
Annual:				
1945	21,700	32,100	233,800	265,900
1946	15,200	31,300	222,200	253,500
1947	12,200	36,500	200,200	236,700
1948	17,000	39,400	177,400	216,800
1949	26,000	52,300	2/ 161,200	2/ 213,500
1950 1/	18,500	2/ 38,300	2/ 149,600	2/ 187,900
1951 1/	25,000	48,700	4/ 181,000	229,700

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Revised.
3/ Includes Bulgaria, Hungry, Rumania and Yugoslavia.
4/ Trade estimate not official-Calif. only.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U. S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information.

TABLE II.- UNITED STATES: Exports of dried prunes, 1950-51 with comparisons

(Crop year, September-August)

Country	Averages		Annual		
	1940/41-1949/50	1945/46-1949/50	1948-49	1949-50	1950-51 1/
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Austria	604	1,208	3,241	0	0
Belgium	2,018	3,857	3,753	3,312	2,145
Czechoslovakia	209	261	0	0	0
Denmark	170	339	1,320	318	161
Finland	7	13	63	0	2
France	120	202	1	788	960
Germany	13,021	26,042	30,062	23,738	2,728
Ireland	307	542	572	0	8
Italy	900	1,623	3,415	2,227	1,045
Netherlands	735	1,298	422	5,031	4,410
Norway	251	492	1	728	36
Poland	324	2/	0	0	0
Sweden	2,538	4,009	0	9,173	5,019
Switzerland	766	951	598	1,229	652
United Kingdom	28,518	22,940	22,531	21,758	8
Other Europe	358	312	533	884	15
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Total Europe	50,846	64,089	66,512	69,186	17,189
Canada	10,222	8,742	6,544	6,524	5,696
Others	8,625	10,753	4,287	3,990	3,475
Total	69,693	83,584	77,343	79,700	26,360

1/ September through July.

2/ Less than ½ ton.

Compiled from official sources of the Bureau of Census.

prunes but does export a small tonnage and at the same time imports prunes from the United States and other countries. The Balkan countries in prewar years exported sizeable tonnages to other European countries, mostly Germany. The war upset the Balkan export trade and it is only now beginning to stage a come-back in a small way.

The export prospects during the 1951-52 season in most foreign countries differs little from that of other postwar years even though production is up about 25 percent from last year. The Southern Hemisphere countries, Argentina, Australia, Chile and the Union of South Africa will easily dispose of their relatively small productions mostly in the domestic markets with minor exports to adjacent countries. France will export a small tonnage and at the same time import prunes from other countries. If import licenses and dollar exchange were made available to French importers a sizeable tonnage of United States prunes, mostly the larger sizes would be imported. It is expected that some Balkan prunes will appear in the Western European markets, mostly in France and Germany. The prospects for exporting United States prunes to Western European countries has been greatly enhanced by the export subsidy program; however, there are still some obstacles to such a program such as lack of dollar exchange and other import restrictions in some countries.--By Dr. Walter R. Schreiber, based in part upon U.S. Foreign Service reports.

U.S. 1950-51 GRAIN EXPORTS NEAR RECORD LEVEL

Exports of grain and grain products from the United States during 1950-51 (July-June) were the second highest on record, totalling 16,043,000 long tons (grain equivalent) compared with 12,846,000 tons in 1949-50, an increase of 25 percent. At this level, the past season's exports were only 1.8 million tons under the all-time record of 17,850,000 tons in 1948-49. Before the War (1934-35 through 1938-39), exports averaged only 2,171,000 tons annually.

Approximately 10,159,000 tons, or 63 percent of the exports, consisted of breadgrains (wheat, wheat flour and rye) and 5,884,000 tons, or 37 percent, of coarse grains (corn, oats, barley and grain sorghums). During 1949-50, breadgrains represented 67 percent of the total and coarse grains 33 percent. In 1948-49, the season when United States grain exports were not only the largest in history but also the largest ever exported by any one country in a single year, breadgrains constituted 77 percent and coarse grains 23 percent of the total.

The huge volume of United States grain moving into export channels during the season just ended exceeded earlier expectations by a considerable margin. Contributing factors were the reduction in export availabilities of both bread and coarse grains from other sources, the continuation of foreign aid programs, increased purchasing power in many countries as a result of the improved dollar position, and a desire to build up and maintain reserves of foodgrains in a number of countries, especially following the outbreak of hostilities in Korea. The development of extraordinary requirements in India and Yugoslavia also e entered into the picture.

UNITED STATES GRAIN EXPORTS DURING STATED PERIODS 1/

(In Long Tons Grain Equivalent)

Year (July-June)	Wheat	Rye	Corn	Oats	Barley	Grain Sorghums	All Grains
	1,000 Long tons	1,000 Long tons	1,000 Long tons	1,000 Long tons	1,000 Long tons	1,000 Long tons	1,000 Long tons
Average 1934-35 through 1938-39	1,457	38	946	64	208	4	2,717
1945-46 2/	8,568	156	426	304	198	61	9,713
1946-47 2/	9,913	14	2,978	334	343	460	14,042
1947-48	13,021	56	1,033	217	517	320	15,164
1948-49	13,563	136	2,337	359	593	862	17,850
1949-50	8,428	145	2,833	223	514	703	12,846
1950-51	10,011	148	2,972	96	846	1,969	16,042

Compiled from records of the Bureau of the Census, United States Department of Commerce.

1/ Excludes exports to the United States armed services abroad. Wheat includes wheat flour (wholly and not wholly of U.S. wheat) and macaroni and semolina. Corn includes cornmeal, hominy and grits, cornstarch and corn flour. Oats includes oatmeal. Barley includes malt.

2/ Bureau of Census figures for the 18-months period July 1, 1945 to December 31, 1946 do not include exports under the Army Civilian Supply Program for which data are not available at the Bureau. Beginning January 1, 1947, however, such exports are included.

Destination of 1950-51 Exports

Approximately 9,525,000 long tons, or 60 percent of the total grain exports during 1950-51, went to European countries. This compares with 8,337,000 tons, or 65 percent of the total, a year earlier. The percentage distribution of the past season's exports to other geographical areas, with comparisons for 1949-50 shown in parenthesis, were as follows: Asia 24 (20) percent; Western Hemisphere 14 (14) percent; Africa 2 (1) percent; and insignificant quantities in both years to Oceania.

Breadgrains: Wheat and wheat flour have always constituted the principal items in United States breadgrain exports, far outranking rye in importance. During the past year, when exports of breadgrains totaled 10,159,000 tons, wheat in its various forms (i.e., grain, flour, macaroni and semolina) accounted for 99 percent of the total and rye for only 1 percent. Despite the marked measure of recovery that has taken place in the world's production of breadgrains since the end of the War, United States exports of wheat, flour and rye during 1950-51 continued at levels far above those prevailing during the 5-year period immediately preceding the outbreak of the War.

Actual exports of wheat (i.e., excluding flour) amounted to 8,615,000 long tons, or 21 percent more than the 7,103,000 tons exported a year earlier. European countries took 5,513,000 tons, or 64 percent of the total, compared with 4,706,000 tons, or 66 percent in 1949-50. The principal European buyers were the United Kingdom, Greece, Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy and Austria. Much less wheat was shipped to Germany, Belgium and Austria than in 1949-50, but much more went to the United Kingdom, Ireland, Switzerland, Spain, Italy and Greece.

Asiatic markets took 2,085,000 tons, or 24 percent of the wheat exports compared with 1,755,000 tons, or 25 percent of the total in 1949-50. The principal markets in that area were Japan and India. Exports to Japan, however, show a large reduction while those to India increased greatly compared with the preceding year. There were also substantial increases in shipments to Korea and Israel-Palestine.

Western Hemisphere countries accounted for 10 percent of the 1950-51 wheat exports compared with 9 percent a year earlier. The outstanding developments here were the large increases in exports to Mexico, Brazil, Colombia, Bolivia, Chile and Ecuador, and the substantial reduction in exports to Peru.

A large increase took place also in shipments of wheat to the African area, especially to Egypt.

The year's flour exports totaled approximately 1,400,000 tons (wheat equivalent) compared with 1,325,000 tons in 1949-50. In both years, flour made wholly from United States wheat, constituted more than 80 percent of the total. The percentage distribution of the season's exports by geographical areas, with comparisons for 1949-50 in parenthesis, were as follows: Western Hemisphere 37 (34) percent; Europe 32 (39) percent; Asia 24 (21) percent and Africa 7 (6) percent.

DESTINATION OF UNITED STATES GRAIN AND GRAIN PRODUCTS EXPORTS 1/
(In Long Tons Grain Equivalent, 1949-50 and 1950-51)

Year and product	Western Hemisphere	Europe	Africa	Asia	Oceania	All Countries Total	All Countries Total
	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	1,000 bushels
1949-50							
Wheat 2/	630,959	4,705,521	11,527	1,755,110	32	7,103,149	265,184
Wheat flour:							
Wholly U.S.	241,734	508,584	34,777	279,362	290	1,064,747	39,751
Not wholly U.S. 3/	216,010	1,930	40,741	1,228	-	259,909	9,703
Total wheat	1,088,703	5,216,035	87,045	2,035,700	322	8,427,805	314,638
Rye	34	145,212	-	6	-	145,252	5,810
Total bread grains	1,088,737	5,361,247	87,045	2,035,706	322	8,573,057	320,448
Corn 4/	562,259	2,069,317	71,318	129,648	6	2,832,628	113,305
Oats 5/	59,115	159,545	758	4,035	-	223,453	15,642
Barley 6/	120,736	175,039	2,848	215,379	64	514,066	23,990
Grain sorghums	40	571,964	-	130,691	-	702,695	28,108
Total coarse grains	742,150	2,975,865	75,004	479,753	70	4,272,842	181,045
Grand total	1,830,887	8,337,112	162,049	2,515,459	392	12,845,899	501,493
1950-51							
Wheat 2/	882,151	5,512,650	135,583	2,084,590	62	8,615,036	321,620
Wheat flour:							
Wholly U.S.	358,321	444,974	32,636	335,562	-	1,171,493	43,736
Not wholly U.S. 3/	158,833	3,206	58,570	3,841	-	224,450	8,379
Total wheat	1,399,305	5,960,830	226,789	2,423,993	62	10,010,979	373,735
Rye	995	147,200	-	-	-	148,195	5,928
Total bread grains	1,400,300	6,108,030	226,789	2,423,993	62	10,159,174	379,663
Corn 4/	721,008	2,106,414	50,407	94,211	4	2,972,044	118,882
Oats 5/	39,145	47,519	1,711	7,987	-	96,362	6,744
Barley 6/	151,459	167,291	1,837	525,579	-	846,166	39,487
Grain sorghums	1,294	1,100,730	-	867,088	-	1,969,112	78,550
Total coarse grains	912,906	3,421,954	53,955	1,495,865	4	5,883,684	243,663
Grand total	2,313,206	9,529,984	280,744	3,918,858	66	16,042,858	623,326

Compiled from records of the Bureau of the Census, United States Department of Commerce.

1/ Excludes exports to the United States armed services abroad but includes those under the Army Civilian Supply Program. 2/ Includes macaroni and semolina. 3/ Includes flour from foreign wheat, mostly Canadian, milled in bond for export. 4/ Includes corn meal, hominy and grits, cornstarch and corn flour. 5/ Includes oatmeal. 6/ Includes malt.

Coarse Grains: The combined exports during 1950-51 of corn, oats, barley, grain sorghums, and their products, amounting to 5,884,000 tons (grain equivalent) probably represents one of the largest shipments on record for the United States. The main reasons for the large volume of coarse grain exports during the year were the reduction in export availabilities of coarse grains from Argentina and the Danube Basin, the greatly increased exports of grain sorghums to India and Europe, and the large exports of barley to Japan.--By Leo J. Schaben.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

FATS AND OILS

CHILE TO IMPORT VEGETABLE OILS

Chile continues to be in a deficit position in respect to vegetable oils and the Government has recently been receiving bids for semi-refined edible oil imports, according to P.M. Davenport, American Embassy, Santiago. It is expected that some edible oil will be purchased from the United States, although South Africa and Argentina are also interested in the Chilean market. The quantity involved probably will range between 9,000 and 11,000 short tons, spread over the next 4 months. Purchase of flaxseed from Argentina has also been proposed because of the short crop in Chile last year. About 2,500 to 3,000 tons of flaxseed may be involved.

The final official estimate for the 1950-51 sunflower seed crop showed a production of 75,072 tons from 134,310 acres. This represents an 11 percent increase in the area planted but a 2 percent decline in production compared with 1949-50. In the case of hempseed, final crop estimates show 3,600 tons of seed from 8,630 acres. Both acreage and production were up about 10 percent from 1949-50. Because it is grown further north than sunflower, the hemp crop suffered less summer weather damage. The Ministry of Agriculture has established the official 1950-51 flaxseed production at 170,800 bushels from 11,742 acres.

The first official estimate of plantings for the 1951-52 season is not released until December, but crushers believe that the delay of the Government in announcing prices and in closing contracts with producers will retard production and that the acreage will be less than in 1950-51. This may be particularly true in the case of sunflower seed. Flaxseed plantings might increase this year with prospects of higher prices, and a strong demand for hemp fiber may lead to greater interest in this crop.

The official statement on the output of vegetable oil for 1950-51 is not yet available. The industry uses a figure of 31,900 tons of refined edible oils, including 25,900 tons from domestic seed and 6,000 tons from imported semi-refined oils, but not including olive oil. Considering the reduction in sunflower seed and assuming that miscellaneous edible oils from hempseed, rice bran, rapeseed, grapeseed, etc., will yield about 2,000 tons (the same as last year) an importation of some 11,000 tons will be required to bring supplies up to the 1950-51 level. This would be about double 1950-51 imports which consisted mainly of sunflower seed oil from Argentina but included small imports from the United States, mainly soybean oil, and olive oil from Spain.

MANCHURIAN SOYBEANS PASS SUEZ CANAL IN VOLUME

Northbound shipments of Manchurian soybeans through the Suez Canal in full cargoes totaled 154,126 short tons during July and August 1951, according to a report from Port Said. This indicates some increase in the monthly rate, compared with the first half of 1951 when 325,180 tons of beans and 7,535 tons of bulk soybean oil passed the canal enroute from Manchuria to European ports. Combined shipments for January-August are equivalent to 529,542 tons or 17,651,400 bushels of soybeans. No information is available indicating the quantity of soybean oil, if any, which may have been shipped in drums on general cargo vessels.

SOUTH AFRICA'S OILSEED PRODUCTION LARGE IN 1950-51

The Union of South Africa's vegetable oilseed production in 1950-51 is now estimated at 136,500 short tons, an increase of almost 40 percent from the 98,120 tons produced during the previous season, reports J.L. Dougherty, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Pretoria. The increase from last year is due to increased plantings, favorable weather, and improved cultivation practices.

The 1950-51 crop of peanuts, the principal oilseed now grown in South Africa, is stated to be a record and is unofficially estimated at 83,000 short tons (shelled), compared with the 1949-50 production of 60,000 tons. From this output the Union will be able to supply its own needs of edible oil and it is expected that in addition the oil from 35,000 tons of peanuts will be available for export.

Natives are not important producers of peanuts except in the Eastern Transvaal, where ordinarily their production would be approximately 10,000 tons a year. This year, however, drought in that area adversely affected native production and it is anticipated that their total contribution to the 1950-51 crop will not be more than 1,000 tons.

The 1951 preliminary unofficial estimate for sunflower seed output is 56,000 tons. The increase in production from the 1950 season of 35,000 tons is due to the increase in area planted. It is doubtful, however, if any sunflower seed oil will be available for export because of the growing domestic market.

Despite the fact that production shows an increase, the Department of Agriculture has strongly recommended that sunflower planting should not be undertaken and has constantly reminded farmers that preference should be given to corn and peanuts because of (1) the importance of corn to the economy of the country; (2) peanuts are resistant to eel worm infestation and furnish valuable legume hay; (3) sunflowers are highly susceptible to eel worm and when they are harvested for seed they leave no fodder for livestock.

Castor bean production for the current season is estimated at 1,500 tons, compared with less than 500 tons last year. Considerable interest is being shown in production of this crop, particularly in the so-called Mauthner spineless dwarf, originally obtained in a small sample from Hungary. All other castor bean types mature too late to be commercially profitable.

Oil expressors provide the farmers with castor bean seed in the spring, and the crops are contracted for at the beginning of the season at an agreed price. The price for 1952 has not yet been set, but it is thought that it will probably be more than £40 ($112) per ton. Competition is keen and the supply of seed is a limiting factor.

Commercial cottonseed output is now estimated at 5,500 tons compared with the 1949-50 production of 2,620 tons. The 1950-51 cotton crop is stated to be the largest since 1929-30, some 40,000 acres having been planted. Drought and insect damage, however, destroyed almost 50 percent of the crop.

Production of soybeans in South Africa is approximately 50,000 bushels per year. Most of the present output is manufactured into meal and used as a convalescent food for native mine hospital patients. The retarding factor in the production of soybeans in South Africa is the absence of a guaranteed pre-season price for beans for processing. Solvent plants, as of mid-September 1951, were offering 84 shillings ($11.75) per bag of 200 pounds.

AUSTRIA CONTINUES TO RATION FATS

The Austrian Government has extended the rationing of certain fats during the 84th ration period--September 10-October 7, 1951--to continue the more equitable distribution of available supplies, reports the American Legation, Vienna. The fixed fat ration for this period was raised by an additional allowance of 150 grams of margarine to 750 grams. This was done to offset, as far as possible, the effects of the inadequate supply of indigenous lard which resulted from the short deliveries of slaughter hogs. Thus the fat ration currently in effect is composed as follows: lard-300 grams; margarine-350 grams; compound lard-100 grams.

About 350 short tons of edible oil from the Netherlands was expected to arrive shortly in Vienna. Part of this quantity will be distributed against ration coupons and the balance released for free sale. Butter and all other types of fat continue to remain on a ration-free basis.

PHILIPPINE COPRA SITUATION CONTINUES FAVORABLE [1]

Phillippine production of coconut products during the first half of 1951 is estimated to have totaled 479,755 long tons in copra equivalent, according to Merrill W. Abbey, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Manila. Thus, output in the first 6 months of 1951 was 35 percent greater than during the corresponding period last year when the outturn amounted to 355,526 tons in terms of copra. Approximately 88 percent of the January-June production was shipped to foreign markets and the balance consumed domestically.

The year 1951 promises to be a relatively good one for the Philippine coconut industry. The law-and-order situation in producing areas has improved steadily. Prices, although lower than before, are still favorable. Disease control work is progressing well, especially with Point Four and ECA aid. Weather, on the whole, has been quite favorable. With respect to the unseasonable May typhoon, the best information available indicates that its damaging effects were nominal. It is estimated that the overall loss to the 1951 crop will not exceed 3 to 5 percent. The Embassy's production forecast of 1,000,000 to 1,100,000 tons in copra equivalent is still considered a possibility, given favorable rains and barring unduly destructive typhoons.

Philippine exports of copra and coconut oil during the first half of 1951 totaled 346,953 and 34,002 long tons, respectively. For the same period last year, shipments aggregated only 230,084 tons of copra and 22,479 of coconut oil. This indicates an increase of 50 percent in terms of copra. Liftings of these 2 commodities amounted to 400,924 tons in January-June 1951 as against only 265,765 in the corresponding months of 1950.

January-June copra shipments to the Western Hemisphere exceeded those of the corresponding period last year by 26 percent. Exports to Europe were nearly 3 times greater, while those to Africa were 5 times the volume of last year. Shipments to Asia were 11 percent greater. Liftings for the United States were larger by 33,000 tons, or 21 percent. With the advent of the rainy season and the corresponding seasonal upturn in output, substantially heavier shipments may be anticipated during the coming months provided foreign demand and prices do not become too unfavorable.

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[1] A more extensive statement will soon be published as a Foreign Agriculture Circular available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

With large inventories built up in the United States by heavy shipments during the second half of 1950, desiccated coconut has continued to be produced on a very limited scale. A number of mills were completely shut down during the first half of the year while the remaining mills operated at greatly reduced capacity. Exports in the first half of 1951 totaled only 19,319 tons, the lowest on record since the industry resumed operations in 1947.

Domestic coconut oil consumption during the first 6 months of 1951 is estimated at around 35,000 tons - 2,000 tons more than during the same period of last year. Inasmuch as exports of copra and coconut oil in the same period increased 50 percent, it would seem that perhaps industrial oil utilization for domestic consumption has about reached maximum normal limits and that domestic manufacturers thus far have been unable to expand foreign outlets for their excess output of manufactured products containing coconut oil.

Philippine copra prices during the period under review--January-June 1951--after reaching a high of P53.50 per 100 kilos ($272 per long ton) in March, continued on a more or less steady and precipitous downslide, reaching a low of P25.50 ($130) in mid-July. Lately, however, the market has shown slight signs of recovery with copra quoted on August 13 at P30.00 ($152). (Note: According to information transmitted weekly from Manila quotations on copra varied but little from that level in subsequent weeks through September 15).

Even though there have been minor price advances for copra in recent weeks, the marketing situation continues highly unsettled. The recent rise in prices is attributed mainly to the deadlock in the Korean armistice negotiations, and provides no indication of the future trend of the market. And because the international situation will continue to exert a major influence on prices, it is hazardous to forecast the future of the copra market. For this reason the Trade has found it extremely difficult to plan purchases and sales in advance and, therefore, is working on a day-to-day basis. Presently, there seems to be no economic basis for expecting sharp price increases although prices are likely to continue to fluctuate somewhat.

TOBACCO

JORDAN'S TOBACCO INDUSTRY EXPANDS; CIGARETTE IMPORTS LOWER

Jordan's 1950 tobacco production is estimated at more than 6 times the 1946 level, according to J.F. Rogers, American Legation, Amman. Cigarette production during 1950 was 80 percent above the 1946 output. Imports of cigarettes during 1950 were 51 percent below 1949.

The country's 1950 leaf harvest is estimated at about 427,700 pounds, compared with only 68,300 pounds in 1946. No data are available as to the 1949 leaf production; however, the 1948 outturn is estimated at about 264,600 pounds, or 38 percent less than the 1950 crop.

Cigarette production in East Jordan in 1950 totaled 490,964 pounds compared with 272,048 pounds in 1946; however, a decline in cut tobacco production from 11,000 pounds in 1946 to 6,200 pounds in 1950 was reported.

During 1950, Jordan imported only 174,163 pounds of cigarettes compared with 352,736 pounds in 1949. Jordan's annual domestic cigarette production has increased 218,936 pounds in the last 4 years, and cigarette imports have declined correspondingly during the same period. It appears probable that Jordan will depend less and less on cigarette importation and more and more on domestically manufactured products. Jordan's leaf imports totaled 135,362 pounds during 1950. The United States, the largest source of leaf, supplied 95,680 pounds, or 71 percent of all imports during 1950. In addition to leaf, 39,683 pounds of tobacco stems were imported in 1950, all of which were supplied by the United States.

CYPRUS TOBACCO PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS INCREASED

Cyprus' 1950 tobacco production is officially estimated at about 16 percent above the postwar annual (1945-49) average, according to statistics released by Cyprus' Department of Agriculture. Exports of unmanufactured tobacco during 1950 were 48 percent above the 1945-49 average.

The country's 1950 leaf harvest is estimated at 1.8 million pounds compared with the 1.6 million pound 1945-49 annual average. The 1935-39 annual average is estimated at only 225,760 pounds. Yellow leaf made up 72 percent, or 1.3 million pounds of the 1950 tobacco production. Latakia leaf production during 1950 constituted about 500,000 pounds, and Virginia leaf only 8,218 pounds.

Exports of unmanufactured tobacco during 1959 totaled 1.5 million pounds compared with a 1.0 million pound annual (1945-49) average. Exports of unmanufactured tobacco during the 1935-39 period averaged only 300,272 pounds. No data are available as to the destination of unmanufactured tobacco exports during 1950.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

SHEEP AND CATTLE NUMBERS INCREASE IN AUSTRALIA

Sheep and cattle numbers continued to rise in Australia according to a preliminary estimate issued by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics. Numbers on March 31, 1951 were placed at 115,570,000 head of sheep and 15,239,000 head of cattle. These estimates compare with 112,891,000 sheep and 14,640,000 cattle reported for March 31, 1950.

AUSTRALIA: Livestock numbers at March 31, 1951, with comparison

Classification	December 31 1938	March 31 1949	March 31 1950	March 31 1951 1/
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Cattle				
Dairy	2/	4,863	4,890	4,813
Beef	2/	9,261	9,750	10,426
Total Cattle	12,862	14,124	14,640	15,239
Hogs	1,156	1,196	1,123	1,134
Sheep	111,058	108,735	112,891	2/ 115,570
Horses	1,724	1,115	1,057	3/

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Official returns from sheepmen in New South Wales and Queensland are believed to understate losses from floods, starvation and other causes. 3/ Not available.

Compiled from official sources.

HOG NUMBERS INCREASE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Hog numbers as of June 1951 were placed at 3,898,000 head according to an official preliminary estimate. This is around 30 percent above the June 1950 estimate, but 11 percent below the 1939 total.

Cattle and calf numbers in the United Kingdom were estimated at 10,477,000 head, a slight decline from the previous year, but 18 percent above the 1939 total. Total sheep numbers were estimated at 19,990,000 head, a decline from the previous year.

UNITED KINGDOM: Livestock numbers on June 1, 1951, with comparison

Classification	1939	1949	1950	1951 1/
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Cattle, total	8,872	10,244	10,620	10,477
Dairy cattle	3,885	4,601	4,628	4,457
Hogs, total	4,394	2,823	2,986	3,898
Sows for breeding	542	345	387	556
Sheep, total	26,887	19,493	20,430	19,990
Lambs under 1 year	12,102	8,359	8,681	7,891

1/ Preliminary

Compiled from official sources.

DANISH LIVESTOCK CENSUS

Danish hog numbers decreased very slightly from July 15, 1950 to July 15, 1951. Sow numbers in the same period were reduced by 61,000 head. The reductions were generally associated with lower feed supplies and to smaller returns from raising hogs because of the increased cost of both domestic and imported feeds.

Cattle numbers increased by around 50,000 head from July 1950 to July 1951, but horse numbers declined sharply because of the continued mechanization in agriculture.

DENMARK: Livestock numbers on July 15, 1951, with comparison

Classification	1939	1949	1950	1951
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Cattle, total	3,326	2,949	3,053	3,101
Cows	1,642	1,535	1,577	1,583
Hogs, total	3,183	2,684	3,208	3,200
Sows	390	348	401	340
Sheep	147	65	61	1/
Horses	594	532	502	462

1/ Not available.

Compiled from official sources.

WORLD WOOL PRICES INCREASE

Late reports from the Dominion Auction indicate sharp increase in prices for all types and grades of wool. This is the first sign of the long expected turn in the market which has tended downward since the break from the high levels of last season occurred in March.

Prices across the board have fallen to about one-third of their March levels and 64's were down to the February 1950 levels before the increases occurred this week while the coarse types were down to June 1950 levels.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

1950-51 SWISS COTTON IMPORTS ABOVE 1949-50

Imports of cotton into Switzerland during the 1950-51 season totaled 182,700 bales (500 pounds gross and including imports of linters), and 18-percent increase over the 154,700 bales imported in 1949-50, according to O.B. Moussman, American Consulate General, Zurich. While 39 percent of total imports in 1949-50 originated in the United States, only 20 percent was shipped from this country in 1950-51. More than offsetting this decline, however, were the increases in imports from Mexico, Egypt, and several smaller sources, including Brazil, Syria, Peru, and the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan. Of particular interest was the increase in imports of Syrian cotton from 1,500 bales in 1949-50 to 12,000 bales in 1950-51.

Consumption of cotton in Switzerland in 1950-51 amounted to 168,000 bales, as compared with 140,000 bales consumed in the preceding season. Stocks of cotton at the mills on August 1, 1951, totaled slightly more than 88,000 bales, about a 7 months' supply at the current level of consumption in the mills, and somewhat above the 75,000 bales in mill stocks on August 1, 1950. Swiss mill owners have indicated their intention to import sufficient cotton to meet current consumption requirements for the 1951-52 season, and to maintain sizeable stocks. The industry considers that the geographical position of the country with its lack of outlets to the sea warrants keeping stocks above those that might be adequate in other countries.

The Swiss spinning industry has contracted for the sale of its output until July 1952, while the weaving industry has sufficient orders to cover production to February 1952. However, members of the trade are concerned about the future, since the industry finds itself with large stocks of high-priced cotton and a wage scale about 50 percent above that obtaining in the textile industries of the surrounding European countries. As a result of this, substantial quantities of cheaper imported goods have been reaching the domestic market and the export market has been declining in recent years from competition with other European textile producing nations.

SWITZERLAND: Imports of raw cotton from major countries of origin; average 1934-38; annual 1946-47 through 1950-51

(Equivalent bales of 500 pounds)

Country of origin	5-year Average 1934-38	1946-47	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50	1950-51 1/
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Mexico	0	2/	9.6	4.3	20.3	36.1
United States	36.1	9.6	5.8	44.9	59.7	36.2
Brazil	1.5	25.4	24.3	5.0	1.9	4.8
Paraguay	2/	6.0	7.1	1.4	3.5	2.7
Peru	2.8	28.0	28.2	18.5	21.9	23.9
Syria	2/	2/	2/	2/	1.5	12.0
India	11.5	7.1	12.7	.6	1.2	1.4
Belgian Congo	2/	2/	6.2	6.8	4.2	2.6
Egypt	69.1	39.5	31.9	18.9	38.4	45.5
West Africa	8.4	2/	2/	1.8	2/	2/
Others	1.7	3/ 11.3	7.3	1.0	2.1	4/ 17.5
Total	131.1	126.9	133.1	103.2	154.7	182.7

1/ Includes small quantities of linters from Brazil, Paraguay, U.S.S.R. and Greece. 2/ If any, included in "Others". 3/ Argentina 7.0. 4/ Argentina 3.3, Sudan 4.7; U.S.S.R. 3.8.

Statistique Annuelle du Commerce Exterieur and Statistique Mensuelle du Commerce Exterieur.

Production of cotton yarn during 1950-51 was 61,327,000 pounds, 10 percent above the 55,741,000 pounds produced in the previous year. Although Switzerland, in prewar years, was essentially a producer of fine yarns, the shortage of exchange available in Europe following the war limited the market for such luxury goods. In order to maintain mill operations, Swiss textile firms converted largely to the production of coarse and medium yarns and fabrics for export. Recent improvement in the European economic picture is reflected in the production in Switzerland, of fine yarns (number 50 and upward), which increased more than 40 percent from 8,361,000 pounds in 1949-50 to 11,792,000 pounds in 1950-51, and from 15 percent of total yarn production in 1949-50 to 19 percent in the 1950-51 season.

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS ON WORLD MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on world markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, U.S. gulf-port average, and taxes incident to exports

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1951	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound	
					Spot quotation	Export and intermediate taxes
Alexandria		Kantar				
Ashmouni, Good	10-4	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	95.85	55.52	2.95
Ashmouni, FGF	"	"	"	(not quoted)		
Karnak, Good	"	"	"	128.00	74.15	2.95
Karnak, FGF	"	"	"	(not quoted)		
Bombay		Candy				
Jarila, Fine	"	784 lbs.	Rupee	1/ 820.00	21.83	21.30
Broach Vijay, Fine	"	"	"	1/ 925.00	24.62	21.30
Karachi		Maund				
4F Punjab, SG, Fine	10-3	82.28 lbs.	"	78.00	28.60	13.85
289F Sind, SG, Fine	"	"	"	82.00	30.07	13.85
289F Punjab, SG, Fine	"	"	"	90.00	33.00	13.85
Buenos Aires		Metric ton				
Type B	10-4	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	2/ 8100.00	73.48	6.86
Lima		Sp. quintal				
Tanguis, Type 3-1/2	10-2	101.4 lbs.	Sol	512.00	32.87	10.75
Tanguis, Type 5	"	"	"	490.00	31.46	9.31
Pima, Type 1	"	"	"	700.00	44.94	21.77
Recife		Arroba				
Mata, Type 4		33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro			
Sertao, Type 5		"	"			
Sertao, Type 4						
Sao Paulo						
Sao Paulo, Type 5	10-4	"	"	306.00	50.34	3.0% ad valorem
Torreon		Sp. quintal				
Middling, 15/16"	"	101.4 lbs.	Peso	270.00	30.81	6.05
Houston-Galveston-New Orleans av. Mid. 15/16"	"	Pound	Cent	XXXXX	36.37	-----

Quotations of foreign markets and taxes reported by cable from U.S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U.S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Ceiling price.

2/ Correction: Buenos Aires export tax shown as 7.76 U.S. cents per pound on September 13, 20, and 27, should be 6.86 U.S. cents on these dates.